vacancy position in respect of Judges in various High Courts and the Supreme Court of India was as follows:

(i) High Courts : 175

(ii) Supreme Court : 2

(b) The filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts is a consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.

Disappearance of Companies after collecting funds

† 859. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many companies disappeared after collecting funds from the market;

(b) if so, the total number of such companies;

(c) the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether Government have detected such companies and taken any action against them; and

(e) if so, the number of such companies against whom action was taken till June, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 229 companies (As identified by the Securities and Exchange Board of India).

(c) The details of these companies State-wise are given in the Statement *(see* below).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Prosecution have been filed against 112 companies, 26 companies are under liquidation, 69 are regular in filing their

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

documents, 2 are seized by State Governments and action is in progress against 20 companies.

Statement

State-wise number of companies disappeared after collecting funds from the market

SI. No.	State	No. of companies
1	Andhra Pradesh	22
2	Bihar	7
3	Delhi	33
4	Gujarat	65
5	Karnataka	11
6	Kerala	1
7	Madhya Pradesh	10
8	Maharashtra	19
9	Orissa	4
10	Punjab	7
11	Shillong	1
12	Tamil Nadu	21
13	Uttar Pradesh	10
14	West Bengal	18
	TOTAL	229